

There is a consumer-level expectation that I have grown accustomed to when it comes to internet service. I grew up with it being plentiful and fast for almost my entire life. What skews the collective perspective on this issue are the averages and the numbers we pay attention to when it comes to upload/download speeds touted by companies in advertisements. The higher end of these estimates only hold true for those of us living in the most densely populated areas of the United States. I have experienced first-hand the major difference in the internet speeds available to me by moving a mere fifty miles north of New York City. Whereas Gigabit fiber optic connections were available to me while living inside New York City, moving slightly further north I was only able to obtain a speed just over 5% of the internet speed to which I had grown accustomed. I was spoiled. We are, generally, spoiled on the coasts of the United States.

By removing the current rules, the FCC will only serve to allow companies to inflate internet prices and create further rifts in the quality of service. Reclassifying ISP's will allow them to levy additional fees on both businesses maintaining websites and consumers seeking stable, fast residential internet connections.

We have to realize that what we take for granted, fast internet, is there because companies make it available to densely populated areas. Do not incentivize ISP's to further ignore the rural parts of our nation by allowing them to reap additional profits by only concentrating on servicing areas and building infrastructures in places that can afford top-tier internet service.

Therefore, I implore the voting members of the FCC to preserve the rules regarding net neutrality as they currently exist.